

LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on

May 16, 2016

at the Department of Administration,

2nd Floor, Conference Room B,

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

Members Attending: Cristina Amedeo, John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Kenneth Findlay, Edward Garcia, Rosita Hopper, Doug Norris, Joan Ress Reeves, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

Members Absent: Louise Herrington-Bright, Phyllis Humphrey, Phyllis Lynch, Alison Davis-Maxell, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Rose Ellen Reynolds

Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS): Karen Andrews, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor

Guests: Eileen Dyer, Interim Director, Providence Community Library, Co-chair, Rhode Island Library Association Legislative Action Committee

Materials Distributed:

- Cranston Public Library Event Invitation for Friday, June 3, 2016; 'LibraryAware Community Award Presentation'
- Office of Library and Information Services Request for Proposals for Strategic Plan Development, Summary Draft dated May 16, 2016
- Library Board of Rhode Island Public Library Construction Regulations Review 2016
- State Aid Formula Review Committee Charge

I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the April 11, 2016 meeting

The meeting minutes were approved with non-substantive changes.

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Ms. Feldman

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

A. National Library Legislative Day (NLLD)

NLLD was held in Washington DC, on May 2-3, 2016. Mr. Viall was joined for the event by Mr. Garcia, Jack Martin, Executive Director of Providence Public Library, Ms. Mellor, Sarah

Morenon, representing School Librarians of Rhode Island (SLRI), Ms. Reeves, and Ms. Reynolds.

The RI delegation met with staff of Representative Langevin and Senator Whitehouse, and with Senator Reed and his staff. Representative Cicilline, or members of his staff, could not schedule a meeting with the delegation, but extended an invitation to meet with Representative Cicilline in the future in his Providence, RI, office.

The American Library Association's (ALA) 2016 NLLD agenda items included: the confirmation of Dr. Carla Hayden to head the Library of Congress, support for Freedom of Information Act Reform bills H.R.653 and S.337, support for public access to taxpayer-funded research through bills H.R.1477 and S.779, support for level funding for the reauthorization the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), and support for the Marrakesh Treaty.

Ms. Mellor reported that the Marrakesh Treaty would facilitate access to print materials for visually impaired and print-disabled persons through copyright exceptions for the creation of accessible versions; the US has not yet ratified the treaty. Mr. Viall noted that 27,000 Rhode Islanders qualify for services provided by Talking Books Plus, and would benefit from passage of the Marrakesh Treaty.

B. Rhode Island Library Association (RILA)

The RILA Annual Conference will take place in Warwick on May 25-26. RILA is leading the drive statewide to have the General Assembly fully fund library grant-in-aid at 25% in the FY17 state budget. The RILA website features a map of the municipalities whose governing councils have passed resolutions to fully fund state aid to libraries. Fourteen cities and towns have passed such resolutions, and resolutions are pending in seven communities.

C. Joan Gillespie Retirement

Mr. Viall attended the retirement party for Joan Gillespie, Executive Director of Ocean State Libraries (OSL), at the Cranston Public Library on May 12. The event was well attended by many librarians and friends of libraries.

D. Cranston Public Library Community Award

Mr. Viall extended his congratulations to Mr. Garcia for the Cranston Public Library's receipt of the 2016 LibraryAware Community Award. The national award is given by *Library Journal* to recognize libraries that engage with their communities to improve lives, and create life-long learners and library users. A plaque commemorating the award will be presented to Mr. Garcia and Cranston Mayor Fung at a reception at Cranston Public Library on June 3, 2016. Mr. Garcia extended invitations to the reception to board members. Senator Reed and Representative Langevin are expected to attend the event.

IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

A. Ongoing

i. Staff Shortages

OLIS is experiencing staff shortages because two staff members are on extended leave. Ms. DiMichele and her team are managing the Summer Reading Program activities during the absence of OLIS' Youth Services Coordinator. Talking Books Plus also has one staff member on extended leave.

ii. OLIS Relocation

OLIS will be relocated to the second floor of the Department of Administration (DOA) building the week of May 30. The entire unit will be located in the same space for the first time in over 20 years. Space for the OLIS Library professional collection will be reduced further, though OLIS no longer provides walk-in library service to the library community or DOA employees as the result of a previous space reduction; however, OLIS will continue to provide interlibrary loan (ILL) service from the professional collection, and to DOA employees in the new location.

B. Construction Projects - Providence Public Library, Providence Community Library, Barrington Public Library, Libraries of Foster

Ms. Mellor met with Providence Public Library about their plans for a substantial renovation of the library. The goal is to renovate and integrate the portion of the library built in the 1950s with the rest of the facility to create a more transparent and functional space for the entire library.

Ms. Mellor met with Providence Community Library (PCL) about its plans to renovate a building in Olneyville to accommodate a new location for the Olneyville Branch Library. The current library is small and inaccessible, and it has periodic flooding. The One Neighborhood Builders organization is partnering with PCL to develop this project.

Ms. Mellor met with Barrington Public Library about its plans to renovate the library, and with the Libraries of Foster to discuss its effort to build a new library to consolidate the two separate buildings, Foster Public Library and Tyler Free Library, into one location.

C. Annual Report Process

OLIS has submitted collected annual report data to the Federal Public Library Statistics Cooperative (PLSC). The OLIS State Data Coordinator is reviewing ways to streamline the annual report process for libraries, and to collect meaningful and relevant data in conjunction with the data required by the PLSC and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

D. Resource Sharing

i. Library of Rhode Island (LORI) Standards and Compliance

Two public libraries have been reported to be noncompliant with LORI standards. One instance has been resolved, and the library now complies with the LORI Standards. OLIS is working with the second library on compliance issues.

ii. Massachusetts Delivery Partnership

The Massachusetts Library System (MLS)/OLIS delivery partnership went into effect for academic libraries on April 1. MLS and OLIS use the same delivery vendor which facilitates the partnership. Academic libraries in RI can lend and return materials to certain libraries in MA, without mailing fees, through the interlibrary loan delivery service.

On April 18, the program was launched with 20 public libraries. In doing so, it was discovered that RI public libraries do not have the tools to easily manage requests from libraries out of the state because individual library's holding information is not in OCLC. Since their holdings are not in OCLC, they cannot use OCLC to fill requests from libraries outside of the Ocean State Libraries network. OLIS will be working with all libraries to implement a solution to make it easier for libraries to lend outside their consortia.

E. Continuing Education and Programming

i. Kid's Reading Across Rhode Island (KRARI)

Ms. DiMichele reported on the Kid's Reading Across Rhode Island (KRARI) event at the State House on May 7. The program was a joint effort of OLIS and RI Center for the Book. The 2016 theme for the children's Summer Reading Program is "On Your Mark, Get Set...Read!" This year's KRARI book is a graphic novel, *Roller Girl*, written by Victoria Jamieson, a Rhode Island School of Design graduate. There were an estimated 570 in attendance, and 320 copies of the book were given to attendees.

ii. Strategic Planning for Public Libraries

Ms. DiMichele reported on the OLIS continuing education program, Strategic Planning for Public Libraries, that was held on April 27 at Barrington Public Library. Pat Wagner, Pattern Research, was the speaker. The event had 27 attendees, primarily library directors and trustees.

F. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Convening

Ms. Mellor and Ms. DiMichele attended an IMLS convening for Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Coordinators in Louisville, KY, on April 19-20. The IMLS staff reported that IMLS, under the leadership of the new director, has three main priorities for funding.

i. Community Anchors to Community Catalysts

IMLS wants to move the focus of libraries from community anchors to community catalysts. The idea is to realize the transformative power of libraries in their communities.

ii. Building Capacity in Collections

This priority concerns the care, conservation, and preservation of digital objects to ensure that libraries preserve the past while considering the present and the future.

iii. Libraries and Museums creating Community

With more veterans in society, libraries and museums need be prepared to accommodate the special needs and requirements of veterans and service members on active duty. Many current service members move frequently and libraries should be prepared to address the issues that arise from this transience, and to serve the needs of veterans who are no longer serving.

G. Chief Officers of State Library Agencies (COSLA)

In connection with NLLD, Ms. Mellor attended a COSLA meeting in Washington, DC. One of the major initiatives discussed was the Public Library Association's Project Outcome. This project focuses on measuring the impact of programming and library services through the use of standardized surveys that measure outcomes as well as outputs. In a related initiative, COSLA is seeking a grant from the IMLS for a project called 'Measures that Matter.' The goal of the grant is to approach library data collection in a holistic way at the national level, identifying the many, sometimes competing, data collection efforts and working toward identifying tools that enable libraries to gather meaningful and relevant data that will clearly articulate library outcomes at the national, state, and local level. This is especially important as the Pew Center for American Life is no longer conducting surveys of library use following the end of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grant that supported this research.

The Library Services and Technology Act is up for reauthorization in October 2016. IMLS has been level funded in the President's budget for fiscal year 2017; however, because there was an additional appropriation in the previous year, level funding will result in less funding for IMLS. The funding reduction, along with a shift in IMLS priorities, will result in the loss of \$8,000 in funding for OLIS.

In its 2017 budget, IMLS is allocating more funds to the National Leadership Grants (NLG) it awards. The latest round of grant awards indicates a shift in the recipients of IMLS NLG awards: of the \$13M awarded to 20 entities, only two grants were awarded to public libraries, including a grant to the Providence Public Library. The rest were awarded to academic libraries or organizations working on a national or regional level. There is concern that the grant awards reflect a shift to more national priorities to the detriment of local and state libraries.

H. Library Organization Taxonomy

Ms. Mellor presented an overview of library organizations and associations. For information on libraries and consortia, Ms. Mellor directed LBRI members to the OLIS website to the complete 'RI Library Terms and Acronyms' <http://www.olis.ri.gov/pubs/glossary.pdf>.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislation

i. Federal & State Legislation

Mr. Garcia reported that the RI State Legislature's approval of 25% funding for libraries in the FY17 Budget looks optimistic; members of the Rhode Island Library Association Legislative Action Committee have met with key individuals at the General Assembly about increasing funding for libraries. Ms. Eileen Dyer discussed the RILA campaign to promote funding for libraries.

B. Library Construction Regulations Review

Ms. Mellor reported that a draft of the Library Construction Regulations will be available for a vote at the June 2016 LBRI meeting. The draft will be provided to the LBRI for review two weeks before the meeting.

C. State Aid Formula Review Committee

Mr. Viall has charged the subcommittee with two goals, and asked the committee to deliver its recommendations to the LBRI at the first meeting after October 1, 2016. The committee will meet in May.

The first goal is to decide if the LBRI should endorse a change to the state library aid formula, or recommend that the formula structure not be changed.

The second goal, regardless of the recommendation, is for the subcommittee to submit at least one recommendation for change to the LBRI to align the funding in keeping with the overall mission of OLIS in providing superior library services to all Rhode Islanders.

VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

A. Dr. Hopper

Dr. Hopper reported that there will be only two positions filled in HELIN administration as it transitions to OCLC WorldShare from Innovative. The HELIN Executive Director is retiring, and another staff member has taken a position elsewhere. The HELIN Executive Committee has determined that the reduced number of staff is adequate to meet the consortium's needs with its new integrated library system.

B. Mr. Garcia

Mr. Garcia reported that his tenure as the President of the Ocean State Libraries (OSL) Steering Committee has ended. Brigitte Hopkins, Executive Director at Westerly Public Library and Wilcox Park, is the new president.

Mr. Garcia reported that the OSL Steering Committee hired a consultant to conduct a nationwide search for a replacement for Joan Gillespie, Executive Director of OSL, and hopes to have the position filled by midsummer.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Library Services Strategic Plan: Environmental Scan

Ms. Mellor reported that a draft of the RFP for a consultant for the OLIS Strategic Plan will be available in June. The objective would be to hire a consultant to conduct focus groups, and assess current and future trends in library services, at both the local and national level,

and to assist OLIS in the development of a comprehensive strategic plan to be completed around the end of the calendar year.

B. AskRI Grant

Ms. Mellor reported that a Request for Information (RFI) from libraries interested in hosting the Statewide Reference Resource Center (SRRC) will be issued this week. The funding reduction for the SRRC affects databases as opposed to the service provider.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2016, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2nd Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Moved by: Mr. Garcia

Seconded by: Mr. Findlay